



Ancaster
Church of England Primary School

Newsletter 5

28th January 2022



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Our School Values and Vision

Recently, we have been working closely with the children, staff and Governing Board to review our core school values and church school vision to ensure that they reflect the school today and over the coming years. Having held a variety of events to explore the different values that represent our school to ensure that we are being the best that we can be, outlined below are our new core school values and the vision statement that ensures our strategic direction is focused and drives us onwards. As a Church of England Primary school, we have also selected values that are inherently Christian and used our status as a proud Church School to write our vision statement; allowing us to root our thinking within the Christian faith and relate our selections back to the teaching of the bible to make the values as pertinent and relevant as possible.

Core School Values

Our core school values succinctly represent who we are and what we stand for as the local village primary school but also as a school who is proud of our church school heritage and identity. As such, our new core values are rooted in Christian teaching and faith and will now become our guiding light to represent and reflect the school as we move forward together. After careful consideration, our new core Christian values are;

Wisdom Courage Respect

We have chosen each value as we believe that they demonstrate Ancaster at this current time and will help current and future generations of our school to *be the best that they can be*. **Wisdom** was chosen for our belief that our core purpose is to encourage everyone to flourish in every aspect of their life and being wise moves firmly beyond the academic. It demonstrates our desire to provide an excellent curriculum that supports learners in their social, emotional aspects of life as well as their academic/education. We believe that **Courage** is needed in a variety of situations throughout life and to be courageous, even when we least feel like it, we will then be able to overcome a problem, situation or new experience. We will develop and nurture everyone in our care to channel their courage and proactively be bold enough to make the most of every opportunity. **Respect** was chosen as our school is, and always has been, built upon high levels of mutual respect from every member of the community. We develop effective relationships and give respect and expect respect from all stakeholders and work hard to ensure that this value is interwoven into all aspects of school life.

Church School Vision Statement

Our Church School Vision statement further exemplifies our core Christian values and provides more detail about who we are and what we currently do whilst being future focused and helping to develop the strategic direction of the school and the work we will undertake over the coming years. Our new Church School Vision Statement has been agreed as the following;

In the spirit of St. Martin, the Centurion Saint, we are a welcoming and inclusive community where every individual is celebrated. As we journey together through exploration and learning, our curriculum strives to promote local and global citizens who realise they have the power to change. Our high expectations for all, underpinned by our core Christian values of Wisdom, Courage and Respect, allow us to challenge everybody to be the best they can be.

Having been finalised and approved by the Governing Board, all staff have been briefed on the new core Christian values and our Church School vision statement and we will undertake work with the children next week to explore all aspects fully through our Collective Worship sessions which will move back to face to face sessions. We will work with the children to ensure the words are 'lived out' across all areas of our school and that our policies, procedures and systems will be reflective of the values and vision so that our school community is connected and united in our wider goal to ensure that every member of our school family is able to be the best they can be!

Supervising Children in the Morning before School

It is vitally important that parents supervise their own children whilst they wait for the gates to be opened. We try to reduce the amount of activity in the car park at our busiest times but we must always remember it is a working car park with clearly designated paths, so children should not be in this area at any time.

We find that parents allow children to access the pond area and the site at the back of the car park and this is where the issues potentially lie as the children are left unsupervised. Please can we ask that parents try not to arrive at school prior to 8.45am (when the gates open) and where parents and children do arrive before this time, children are asked to wait patiently under constant supervision from the adults dropping off/collecting.

One final point we need your help with is to ensure that children are not at the windows of the Breakfast Club. This club is run by a separate service and their provision is bespoke to them. Please keep children by you whilst they wait for the gates to open. Many thanks for your cooperation with this.

Power to Change Award

Don't forget-we have launched our brand new 'Power To Change Award'. We are asking children to do something themselves, over a period of time, which they believe will help to make a **positive change** in the local community, in school or the wider area; this could be picking up litter in the local community, helping a neighbour with some jobs, raising money for charity etc. If you feel your child (or another child) is doing something which you feel needs to be recognised as part of our 'Power To Change', then please email powertochange@ancaster.lincs.sch.uk with the name of the child and a brief description of what they have been doing.

Online Safety



Please find attached a link for help and support for parents in a digital world. As children will have received new devices in the last month for Christmas, this guidance on setting, updates and apps for different ages will be useful. <https://parentinfo.org/>

How five-day isolation rule works in England



With the rules constantly changing around isolation periods and what to do in the case of a positive test. Please follow this helpful infographic to work out how long to isolate.

Community Orchard



This week we helped plant some of the trees that will become the new community orchard which is situated behind the new cemetery at St Martin's Church. Members of our School Council from key Stage 2 represented the school beautifully to ensure that they were planted properly and ready to begin their journey of growth to become fruitful for the community in the years to come. We appreciated the opportunity to be involved and loved the time we spent.

Change of Weather/PE Kits

We are in the midst of the colder weather now and many children are still coming to school without appropriate clothing or suitable PE kit for outdoor PE. Please could we ask that you ensure that your child has these warmer items so they can participate in all events inside and outside the classroom. Also, PE days cannot always be held on the same consistent days so please ensure that PE kits are in school every day so that lesson times can be adapted across the week.

30 Years of Service Award-Mrs Moore

Recently, we celebrated Mrs Moore for her Long Service Award achieving 30 years of service with Lincolnshire County Council. Throughout her time with the Local Authority, Mrs Moore has always endeavoured to ensure the best possible outcomes for children and young people in a variety of different roles she has undertaken across the sector. This is true now more than ever in her current role as School Business Leader at Ancaster where we are incredibly fortunate to have Mrs Moore as an integral part of our Senior Leadership Team helping to ensure our school continues to be the best we can be! **Please join us in congratulating and celebrating Mrs Moore on her fantastic 30 years of service!**